



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

2014 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

| | | |
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| Project Title: | Invasive Plant ED/RR Search | |
| Region: Use region number ONLY | 1 | |
| Station: | Steigerwald Lake, Franz Lake, and Pierce National Wildlife NWRs (Columbia Gorge Refuges). | |
| Contact Person: Name and Phone Number | Lynn Cornelius 360-887-3883 | |
| Project Description: (Up to 250 words) | <p>Early Detection/Rapid Response (ED/RR) is the lead component of this project, and will be implemented to inventory approximately 580 acres to significantly expand the impact and benefits of ED/RR efforts. Much of this search will be conducted in woodland and forest habitat on foot. Some areas will be searched comprehensively for the first time, especially oak, deciduous and coniferous forest areas. Search will focus on the following species in conservation target habitats: yellow flag iris, purple loosestrife, and Japanese knotweed in floodplain wetlands, creeks and river shorelines; shiny geranium and old man's beard in oak woodland and sandy riparian forest; slenderflower thistle and knapweeds along roadsides and grassland/pastures, and other watch species as encountered such as garlic mustard. Volunteers including licensed applicators will search and map, largely on foot or by ATV and canoe, and treat small infestations for ED/RR (< 5 acres). Most of the project funds (60%) will be spent in July-September of FY 14. The remaining 30% will be spent during the woodland/forest search work which will need to take place during the FY 15 dormant season (Oct-early Mar).</p> | |
| List of Invasives Species Targeted: | Common Name | Scientific Name |
| | yellow flag iris | <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> |
| | Japanese knotweed | <i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> |
| | shiny geranium | <i>Geranium lucidum</i> |
| | slenderflower/Italian thistle | <i>Carduus tenuiflorus/pycnocephalus</i> |
| | Diffuse/spotted/meadow knapweeds | <i>Centaurea diffusa/stoebe/jacea x nigra</i> |
| | old man's beard | <i>Clematis vitalba</i> |
| | purple loosestrife | <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> |
| | English ivy and related spp. | <i>Hedera helix, H. hibernica cultivars</i> |
| | garlic mustard | <i>Alliaria petiolata</i> |

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| Project Status: | InProgress |
| Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date: (mm/dd/yyyy) | 04/01/2015 |

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

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| Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply) | VA_Other |
| Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words) | Volunteers including licensed applicators will receive training, search, and map, largely on foot or by canoe, and treat (spray and manual) small infestations for ED/RR acres. |
| Total Number of Volunteers: | 35 |
| Total Number of Volunteer Hours: | 158 |
| Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words). | Friends of Ridgefield NWR, Gorge Refuge Stewards, community volunteers, Skamania County Noxious Weed Program. |

PROJECT RESULTS

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| Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words). | Planning and research was conducted, volunteer and project supplies were purchased. An invasive plant training was held for 7 volunteers on June 24. In FY 14, volunteers and the coordinator conducted 9 field search days - 2 at Pierce NWR, 2 at Franz Lake, and 5 at Steigerwald Lake. Volunteers donated 35 visits for 158 hours in FY 14. 546 acres were searched - 81 by canoe and 465 on foot. Several new locations were discovered for English ivy, English holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>), yellow flag iris, and indigobush. A new species - Lemon balm (<i>Melissa officinalis</i>) was discovered at Pierce Refuge and previously reported locations for 3 other species, princess tree (cf. <i>Paulownia</i>) at Pierce NWR, Italian arum (<i>Arum italicum</i>) adjoining Franz Lake NWR, and Japanese knotweed at Steigerwald Lake NWR were documented. All locations were mapped and GPS and mapped records filed. Planning and scheduling was initiated for upcoming winter/spring dormant season searches of woodland and forest habitats to complete the project by April, 2015. Rapid Response: In FY 15, after the period for this report, volunteers started controlling new ivy patches manually and volunteer applicators treated ivy and knotweed. |
| Number of Acres Treated: | 0 |
| Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped: | 546 |
| Number of Acres Restored: | 0 |

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

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|----------------------------|-------------|
| Total Grant Amount: | \$ \$10,000 |
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Breakdown of Expenditures:

| Category | Total \$ Spent | % of Total Grant |
|----------|----------------|------------------|
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|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Equipment / Supplies | \$1,119 | 11.2% |
| Chemical | | |
| Biocontrol Agents | | |
| Travel | | |
| Volunteer Stipends | | |
| Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract | \$5,918 | 59.2% |
| Restoration Materials | | |
| Other | | |
| TOTAL | \$7,037 | 70.4% |

Recommendations: (OPTIONAL)

How useful was this program for meeting refuge
invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?

Funding for this program was essential in providing coordinator time and supplies to train, coordinate, and outfit volunteers to significantly expand focused invasive plant searches including into new land areas. More funds annually would provide/increase coordinator time to support Refuge volunteers and annual ED/RR searches.

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